Message Text

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E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SHUM, TW, US

SUBJECT: CASE OF CHEN MING-CHUNG

REF: STATE 024618

- 1. MOFA NORTH AMERICAN AFFAIRS FIRST SECTION CHIEF Y. C. CHEN CALLED EMBOFF TO THE FOREIGN MINISTRY ON MARCH 24TH ON THE CASE OF CHEN MING-CHUNG. IN RESPONSE TO EMBASSY INQUIRY OF FEBRUARY 8 (PROMPTED BY REFTEL), MOFA HAD ASSEMBLED RESPONSES TO OUR QUESTIONS REGARDING THE CASE. Y. C. CHEN DELIVERED THESE RESPONSES ORALLY. HE FREQUENTLY REFERRED TO A SHEAF OF DOCUMENTS BEFORE HIM WHICH HE OCCASIONALLY ALLOWED EMBOFF TO SEE.
- 2. REGARDING CHEN MING-CHUNG'S ACCESS TO FAMILY AND ATTORNEY, MOFA OFFICER SAID HE HAS NOT BEEN DENIED VISITATION RIGHTS AND THAT HE HAS IN FACT BEEN VISITED A TOTAL OF 23 TIMES FROM DECEMBER 1976 TO MARCH 3, 1977. THESE VISITS INCLUDED ONES FROM HIS WIFE, DAUGHTER, BROTHER, SISTER, AND ATTORNEY.
- 3. REGARDING THE "LEGAL PAPERS" RELATING TO HIS CASE, MOFA SAID THAT HE HAS HAD ACCESS TO AND HAS SIGNED THE CHARGES DOCUMENT (CHI SU SHU, 6386/6083/2579), THE DEFENDANTS DOCUMENTS (PIEN HU SHU, 6589/6233/2579), AND THE JUDGMENT PAPERS (PAN CHUEH SHU, 0445/0414/2579). CONFIDENTIAL

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4. REGARDING ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE-INDUCED PARALYSIS OF HIS HANDS, Y. C. CHEN SAID THAT CHEN MING-CHUNG'S HANDS ARE NORMAL AND SHOWED EMBASSY OFFICER PHOTO DATED FEBRUARY 16, 1977 WHICH PURPORTED TO SHOW CHEN MING-CHUNG PLAYING BASKETBALL, SMOKING, AND TALKING WITH HIS WIFE, WITH NO APPARENT EVIDENCE OF INJURED HANDS.

- 5. REGARDING THE ALLEGED DENIAL OF MEDICAL TREATMENT FOR A DETERIORATING HEART CONDITION, Y. C. CHEN SAID THAT CHEN MING-CHUNG HAD BEEN EXAMINED BY NATIONAL TAIWAN UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL DOCTORS AND THAT HIS HEART CONDITION, WHICH WAS NOT SERIOUS, HAD BEEN TREATED APPROPRIATELY. (COMMENT: DOCUMENT WHICH THE EMBOFF GLIMPSED INDICATED THAT CHEN MING-CHUNG HAD BEEN EXAMINED IN OCTOBER 1976 AND ON MARCH 4, 1977.)
- 6. REGARDING THE STATUS OF FIVE OTHER INDIVIDUALS ALLEGEDLY INVOLVED IN THE SAME CASE, Y. C. CHEN SAID THE LIANG LIANG-CHI AND SU FUNG-CHUNG WERE BOTH SUSPECTED OF INVOLVEMENT BUT THAT THEY WERE STILL AT LARGE. TSAI KUO-CHU AND WANG TSE-KWEI HAVE NOT BEEN QUESTIONED BY ROC AUTHORITIES AND ARE NOT INVOLVED IN THE CHEN MING-CHUNG CASE. THERE IS NO RECORD OF WANG CHIN-CHU.
- 7. MOFA INFORMED US THAT THE RESULTS OF ITS INQUIRY INTO THE CHEN MING-CHUNG CASE WHICH THEY WERE PASSING TO THE EMBASSY WOULD ALSO BE SENT TO THE ROC EMBASSY AT WASHINGTON. UNGER

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